

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
Eastern District of Wisconsin

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June 6, 2008

Media Release:

ILLINOIS MAN SENTENCED TO TEN YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR CHILD ENTICEMENT CRIME

Steven M. Biskupic, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, announced that an Illinois man was sentenced today to ten years in federal prison for using a computer connected to the internet to attempt to persuade, induce, entice or coerce a minor to engage in unlawful sexual activity. The Honorable J.P. Stadtmueller, U.S. District Court Judge, imposed the 10-year mandatory minimum sentence on Michael E. Nagel, 47, of Burbank, Illinois. Judge Stadtmueller also required that Nagel spend 5 years on supervised release following his term of imprisonment.

Nagel pled guilty in January. As part of his plea, he acknowledged traveling from Illinois to Milwaukee in July of 2007 to have sex with a person he believed to be a fourteen year old girl. In reality, Nagel was communicating with an undercover police officer. At the sentencing hearing, Assistant United States Attorney Jonathan Koenig described the defendant as a dangerous person, referencing, among other things, the many sexually explicit telephone and computer chats leading up to the planned meeting with the 14-year old girl in Milwaukee. While District Judge Stadtmueller described the congressionally-mandated 10 year minimum sentence as a "draconian" penalty, AUSA Koenig argued that "the community is safer with Mr. Nagel behind bars."

The case stems from an investigation by the Milwaukee Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

According to United States Attorney Steven M. Biskupic, "the Department of Justice has made the protection of our nation's children a top priority through Project Safe Childhood, and prosecutions such as this further that priority." He added: "The message from this case is that those whose conduct threatens the safety of children will be prosecuted and will face real time in federal prison."

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